

## **APPENDIX I - TACTICAL FIELD OPERATIONS**

### **I.1 - PURPOSE -**

This Facility does not normally do tactical field operations. We will use unit integrity and SOPs wherever possible. In the event unit integrity and SOPs cannot be used, this SOP prescribes the organization and procedures to be followed in the preparation and execution of day tactical training.

### **I.2 - PERSONNEL -**

Aviators assigned to a FAC 1 and FAC 2 position who perform combat, support, or combat service support missions. Specific crew duties are designed to ensure the team work necessary to safely and expeditiously execute a tactical flight (day or night). The sharing of duties in no way relieves the pilot of his/her overall responsibility for the actions and safety of his/her aircraft.

#### **I.2.1 - PILOT DUTIES -**

##### **I.2.1.1 - Preflight -**

- Plan mission together with co-pilot.
- Check NOE/Terrain Flight Hazards Map.
- Crew members accomplish oral call-out and confirmation of checklist items.
- Preflights may be split between crew members.
- The checklist will be used.
- Make sure windshield is clean and not distorted.

##### **I.2.1.2 - Inflight -**

- The pilot on the controls will fly the aircraft. He/she will maintain his/her attention and vision on the items outside of the aircraft that influences the mission (i.e. other aircraft, obstacles, terrain clearance, and hazards).
- Aid the pilot not flying in navigation and reconnaissance by providing a verbal commentary of the terrain features and man-made objects that he/she observes on the route that is being flown.
- Maintain course, altitude and airspeed prescribed by the mission.
- Make radio transmissions as necessary.

#### **I.2.2 - CO-PILOT DUTIES -**

##### **I.2.2.1 - Preflight -**

- Assist pilot in planning mission.
- Check NOE/TERRAIN Flight Hazards Map.
- Assist in pre-flying aircraft.
- Read check list to pilot.

#### **I.2.2.2 - Inflight -**

- Navigate and verbally direct the flight pattern of the aircraft.
- Advise pilot of all known obstacles.
- Monitor engine and flight instruments and advise pilot as required.
- Record data as required by mission.
- Advise Ground Commander, if aboard, of any changes to original mission.
- Advise troops, when aboard aircraft, as to the direction of landing in LZ.
- Tune radio to desired frequencies.
- Responsible for authentication of radio transmissions and challenging of radio transmissions.
- Perform takeoff and landing checks.

### **I.3 - OPERATIONS -**

#### **I.3.1 - PLANNING -**

1. Planning for a tactical operation will be initiated immediately upon receipt of a warning order by ODO during RAFTPs or Operations Officer during unit training and will continue until the operation is executed.
2. Initial requirements will be placed on individual crew in the early stages of training and on sections of platoons in advanced stages of training when warning order is received.
3. The Warning Order will consist of:
  - Type mission to be conducted.
  - Time operation will take place (approximate).
  - Time operation order will be issued.
  - Elements to participate.
4. When practical, all aviators and Pathfinder personnel will be briefed simultaneously. ODO will brief LZ personnel before departure to the landing zone used for night operations.

#### **I.3.2 - AIR MOVEMENT FROM FACILITY TO TACTICAL TRAINING AREA -**

1. The operation order will be adhered to whenever possible but can be changed if mission dictates.
2. Time will be prescribed in the operation order.
3. Single ship operations will depart Facility at ten minute intervals (engines will be started ten minutes prior to life-off time).
4. Communication check will be made on 65.05 FM with ODO, Operations Officer, or C&C Ship prior to taxiing for take-off.

#### **I.3.3 - LANDING ZONES -**

The landing zone is oriented for reference and location of enemy targets of fires. Through use of the clock system, the twelve o'clock position being the direction of the landing.